

New Hampshire's State Reservations

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Topics

- Statutory Responsibilities
- Purposes of State Land Ownership
- Allocation of Land Use
- Income & the For Mgt Prot Fund
- Public Land Management Direction and Process

227-G:3 Duties and Authority of the Director of the Division of Forests and Lands.

I. The director shall:

(a) Execute all matters pertaining to forestry, forest management, and forestlands within the jurisdiction of the state, including cooperation with other state and federal agencies, with the approval of governor and council as required.

(b) Be responsible for the forest management of all reservations and state-owned forestlands except those areas managed for special purposes. The director shall consult with the directors of all agencies responsible for such areas in regard to forest management.

“*Reservation*” means public land under the jurisdiction of the department including but not limited to: state forest, state park, natural area, historic site, geological site, recreation trail, memorial area, fire tower, wayside area, heritage park, resource center, agricultural area, state forest nursery, administrative facility, information center, demonstration forest, certain islands, and lands under lease to the department.

(c) Execute all matters pertaining to the use of state reservations, except matters pertaining to the recreational development, administration, and maintenance, which shall be done in cooperation with the director of the division of parks and recreation, department of resources and economic development, with the approval of governor and council as required.

Why does the State of New Hampshire own forest land?

Declaration of purpose 227:H-1 “The public welfare of this state is served by the prudent acquisition and management of reservations to provide forest benefits and for the purposes of demonstrating sound forestry principles, protecting habitat for plants animals and other organisms, conserving forested watersheds, preserving areas of rare and exemplary natural beauty and ecological value, and providing for public access and use”

Definitions 227:G-2 “Forest benefits include but are not limited to:

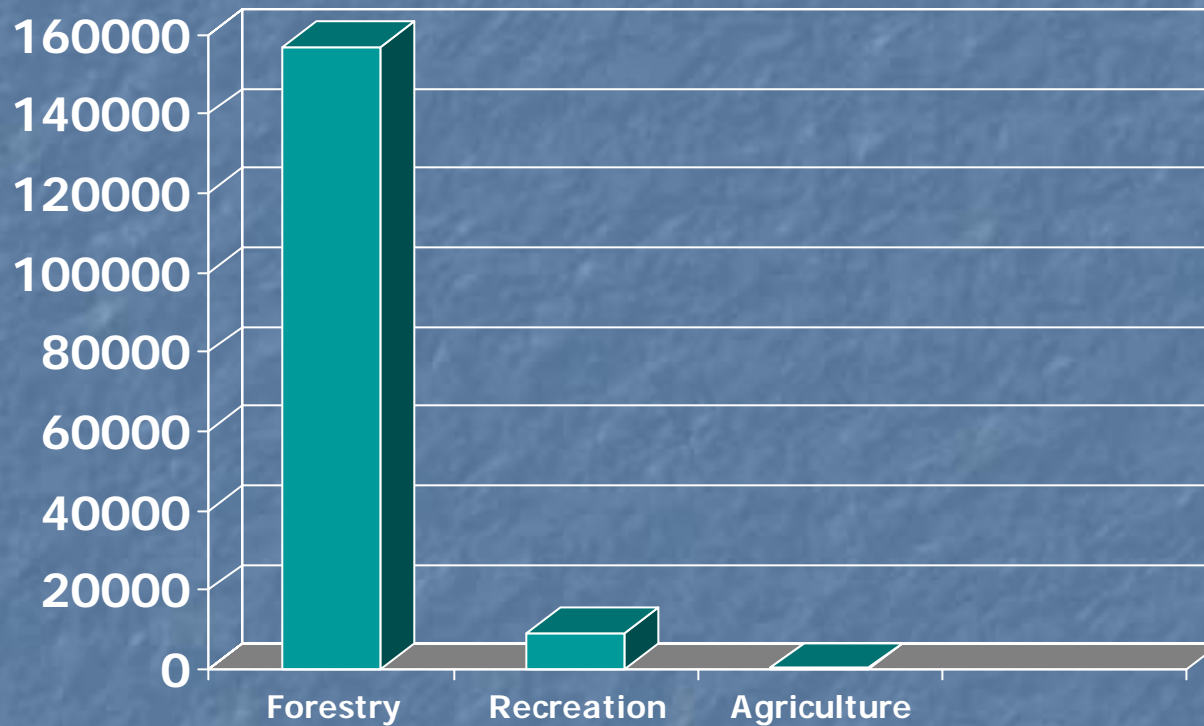
- 1. the production of forest products, sustaining a viable forest-based economy,**
- 2. recreation and scenic values,**
- 3. healthful surroundings,**
- 4. climate mitigation,**
- 5. clean water, and**
- 6. biologically diverse populations of plants and animals”.**

Allocation of DRED Lands

DRED lands are allocated for DRA into zones for taxation purposes.

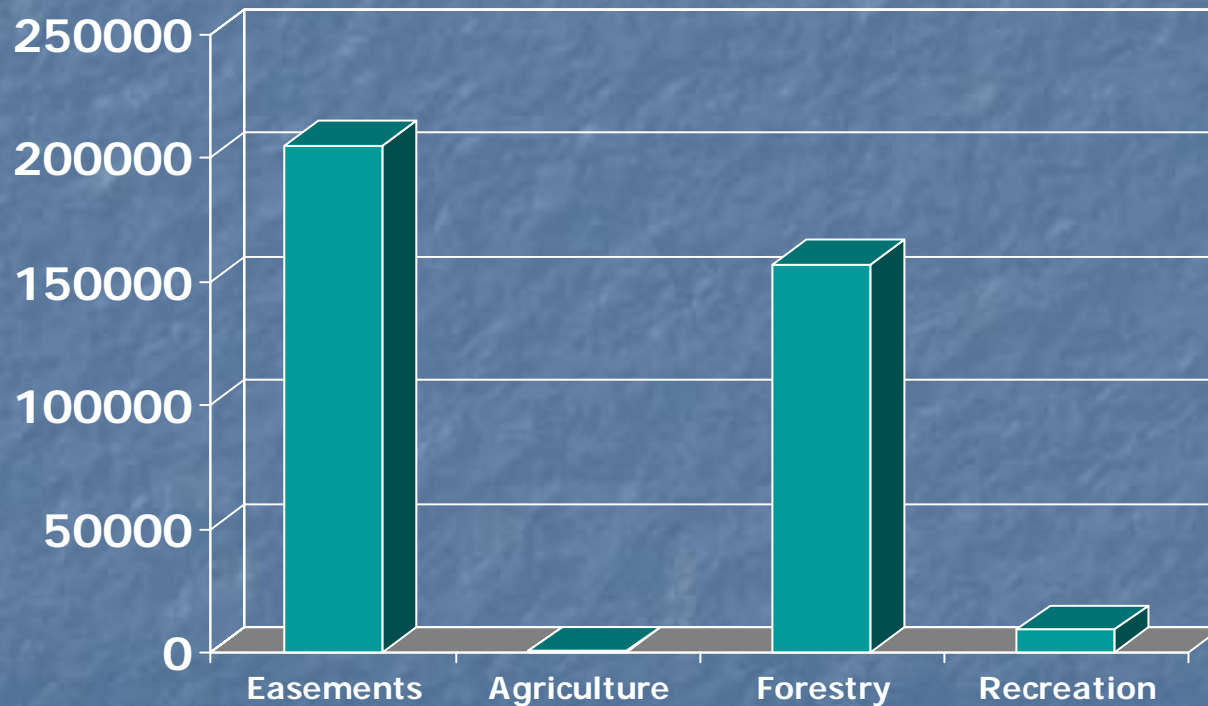
- **Easements** are lands owned by someone other than DRED however DRED has purchased rights. Property taxes are paid by the land owner. (Primary jurisdiction is Forests and Lands)
- **Agricultural Leases** are lands owned by DRED however the temporary right to grow agricultural products have been leased to someone other than DRED. Property taxes are paid by the lessee. (Primary jurisdiction is Forests and Lands)
- **Recreation Lands** are owned by DRED for the purpose of developed recreation. Property taxes are paid on a 5-year declining schedule: Year 1 – 100% of taxes, Year 2 – 80% of taxes, etc. (Primary jurisdiction is Parks and Recreation)
- **Forest Lands** are owned by DRED and pay PILT (Payments In Lieu of Taxes) every year approximately equivalent to Current Use Taxation levels. (Primary jurisdiction is Forests and Lands)

DRED Fee Land Allocation for DRA

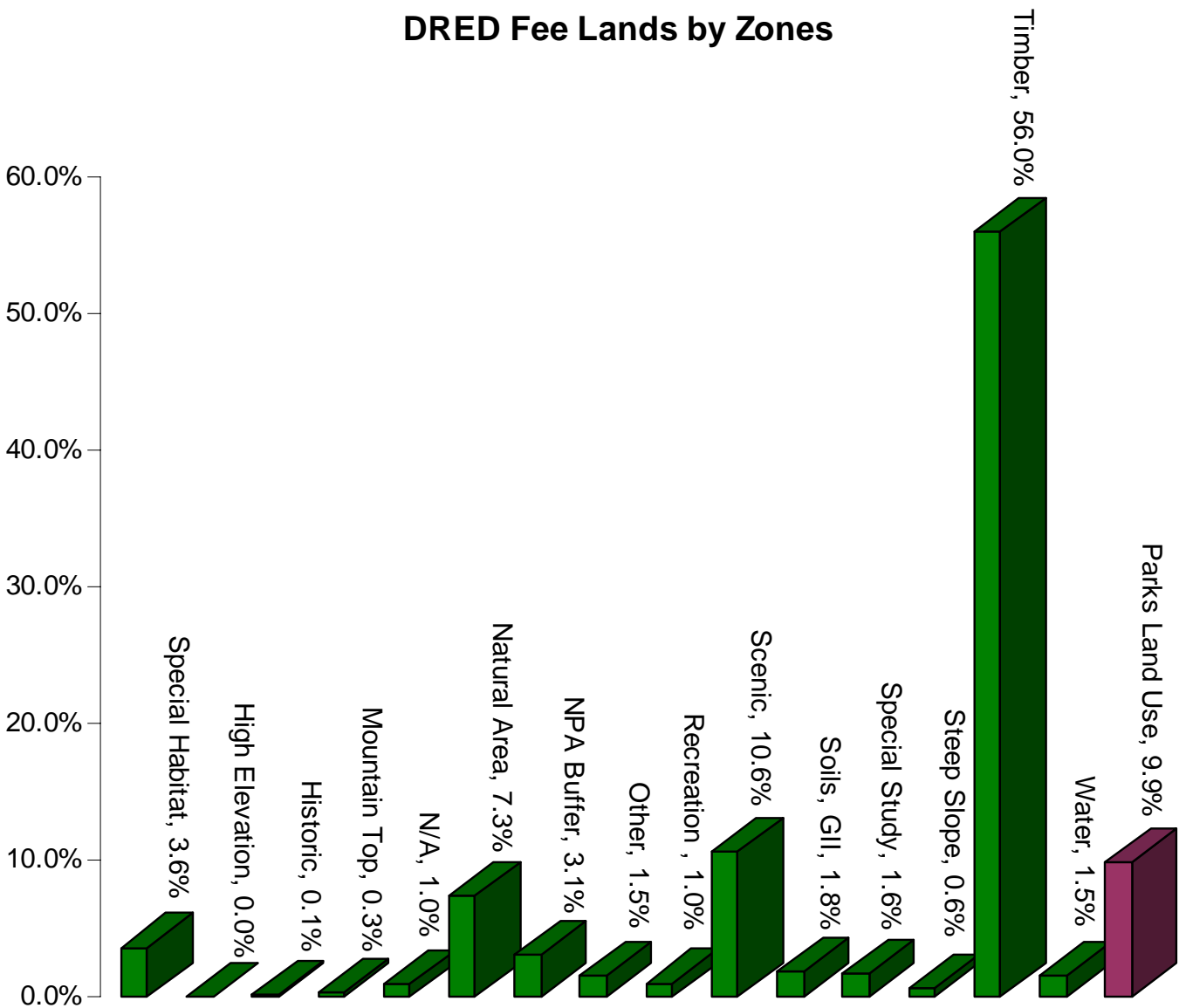


❖ Approximately 5.6% of DRED fee lands fall into the recreation land use zone.

Allocation of All DRED Lands by Land Use Zones



DRED Fee Lands by Zones

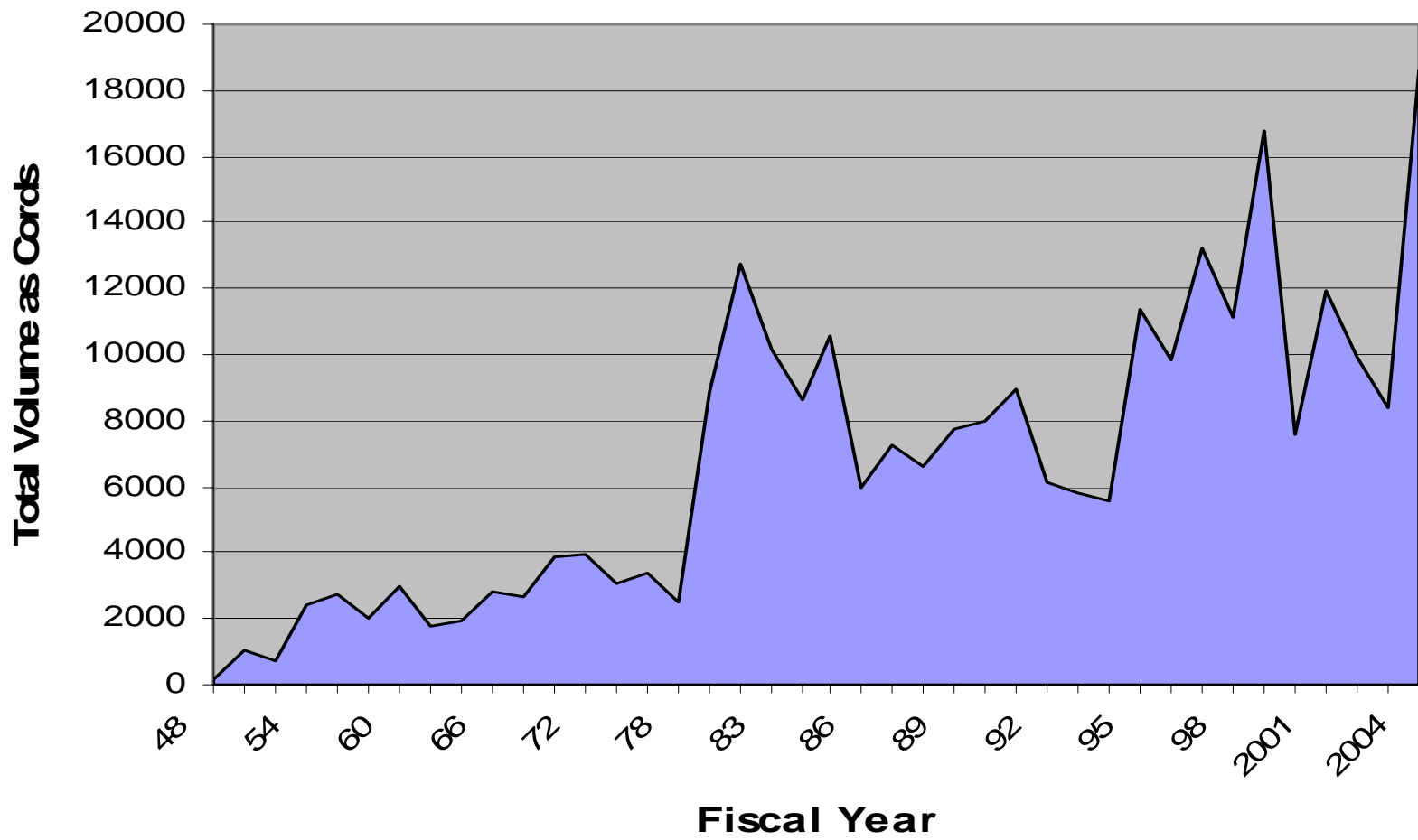


Income

FY 06 \$832,357

- **Timber Sales**
- **Forest Nursery Sales**
- **Mountain Top Communication Sites
(9/17)**
- **Recreational Camp Leases**
- **Administrative Fines**

Harvest Volume in Cords from DRED Managed Lands



227-G:5 I. Forest management and protection fund.

(a) “There is hereby established a forest management and protection fund. This fund shall be used for the following:

(1) Managing state-owned forestlands.

(2) Monitoring of forest health and protection of state and private forestlands from disease and insect infestations.

(3) Enforcing the laws relating to the harvesting of timber.”

Other FY 2006 Expenses Funded Through the Forest Management and Protection Fund:

Salaries (income generation focus)	\$245,056
State Forest Nursery	\$194,603
Office of Information Technology	\$80,329
Road Maintenance and Repairs	\$76,500
Boundary Line Maintenance	\$34,000
Natural Heritage Surveys and Review	\$40,000
Wildlife Habitat Improvement	\$16,500
Forest Law Enforcement	\$28,000
Site Management & Monitoring	\$40,000
Infestation and Eradication	\$20,000
Special Deputy Training	\$5,000

Public Forest Lands Management

RSA 227:H-2

(a) Ensure that forest management on reservations:

(1) Gives due consideration to the conservation of all resources and benefits.

(2) Considers the context of these reservations in the surrounding landscape.

(3) Is guided by principles of sustained yield.

(b) Coordinate forest management on reservations with other interested state and federal agencies.

(c) Allow for public involvement in forest management planning for reservations.

Prior to any forest operation, each project is reviewed by the State Lands Management Team under the Cooperative Land Management Committee). The team includes review by:

- ✓ NH Fish & Game – Wildlife Division**
- ✓ NH Division of Parks – Trails Bureau**
- ✓ NH Division of Parks – Park Operations**
- ✓ NH Division of Historical Resources**
- ✓ NH Natural Heritage Bureau**
- ✓ UNH Cooperative Extension**

❖ Projects are also advertised in local newspapers for public comment.

❖ The Road Agent in the town the project occurs in is contacted about road impacts.

❖ Often, abutters are contacted for project input and as a “good neighbor” policy.

❖ Other experts such as research scientists, often help with project planning.

❖ Tours are conducted on site if requested by the local community.

❖ List of pending timber sales are included in the quarterly report.

A Study of Forest Operation Planning listed 47 steps required in conducting a typical “State” timber harvest.

FOREST INVENTORY
HABITAT MANAGEMENT UNITS
SITE & STAND ANALYSIS & PRIORITY
SETTING
PRELIMINARY AGENCY REVIEW
PRESCRIPTION CRUISE
COMPUTATION OF CRUISE DATA
INTER-DEPARTMENT SPECIALIST REVIEW
DRAFT PLANNING REPORT
PLANNING REPORT REVIEW
FINAL PLANNING REPORT
DRAFT FOREST OPERATION NOTICE
BUREAU REVIEW OF PLANNING REPORT
DEPARTMENT REVIEW OF PLANNING
REPORT
INTER-DEPARTMENT REVIEW OF PLANNING
REPORT
FINAL APPROVAL OF PLANNING REPORT
FINAL FOREST OPERATION NOTICE & PRESS
RELEASE
PUBLIC NOTIFICATION
LAYOUT AND MARKING
COMPUTATION OF MARKED VOLUME
PERMIT APPLICATIONS
DRAFT PROSPECTUS
PROSPECTUS REVIEW
NOTICE PROCESSING
FINAL PROSPECTUS PROCESSING

DEVELOP MAILING LIST
MAIL TIMBER SALE NOTICES
SHOWING
BID OPENING
BID PACKAGE AND RECOMMENDATION TO STATE
FORESTER
1ST LETTER TO BIDDERS WITH BID RESULTS
DIRECTOR REVIEW
COMMISSIONER REVIEW
CONTRACT PROCESSING
2ND LETTER TO BIDDERS WITH BID AWARD
CONTRACT REVIEW WITH PURCHASER
CONTRACT SIGNING AND 1ST PAYMENT
LETTER TO MUNICIPALITIES
SITE REVIEW WITH LOGGER
OPERATION INSPECTIONS
FINAL INSPECTION WITH PURCHASER AND LOGGER
FINAL TIMBER SCALE SUMMARY AND
RECOMMENDATION FOR CLOSE-OUT
SUMMARY REPORT REVIEW
BUSINESS OFFICE NOTIFICATION TO CLOSE-OUT
PROJECT
RETURN PERFORMANCE BOND
ADJUST INVENTORY DATA AND TIMBER SALE RECORDS
PERIODIC REVIEW

Duties of Director of Parks and Recreation

RSA 216-A:2 IV.

- The director shall cooperate with the director of the division of forests and lands on matters pertaining to the joint recreational and forestry use of state lands...